

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEVE SCALISE

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 25, 2017

Mr. SCALISE. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted Nay on Roll Call No. 575, Nay on Roll Call No. 576, Nay on Roll Call No. 577, Nay on Roll Call No. 578, and Nay on Roll Call No. 579.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEVE SCALISE

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Wednesday, October 25, 2017

Mr. SCALISE. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted Yea on Roll Call No. 580 and Yea on Roll Call No. 581.

HONORING GASTON DAY SCHOOL'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. PATRICK T. McHENRY

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 25, 2017

Mr. McHENRY. Mr. Speaker, the Tenth District of North Carolina is home to many excellent schools that develop and inspire our young people to become leaders in their communities. This year marked the 50th anniversary of one of these institutions, Gaston Day School. The school was founded by families and community leaders in Gaston County who were seeking to offer an educational alternative to the area's parents and children. In an article from The Gastonia Gazette published in 1967 the first Head of School, J.B. Davis, lays out Gaston Day's mission when he says, "We are not interested in teaching only the excellent student. We are interested in teaching the youngster who can achieve." Gaston Day has realized this mission since its very first class. In fact, Gaston Day's current Head Master, Richard Rankin, was a student in Gaston Day's very first class.

Although the school may have moved on from its humble beginnings in the former First Presbyterian Church building and is now established in the Gaston County community, it has not forgotten its roots. Over the past fifty years Gaston Day School has graduated students who have not only become leaders in the Gaston County community but in many other parts of the world as well. Today, the school continues to expand and evolve so it can continue to teach its students to succeed in our constantly changing world.

Congratulations to Gaston Day School on fifty years of teaching students and developing leaders.

HONORING MARGARET "PEGGI" HANRAHAN

HON. BRADLEY BYRNE

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 25, 2017

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Margaret "Peggi" Hanrahan for her years of service to the people of Alabama and the United States.

On October 27, 2017, Peggi will retire from her current position as Confidential Assistant to Attorney General Jeff Sessions. Prior to this role, Peggi served as Executive Assistant to Mr. Sessions during his twenty-year career in the United States Senate. Peggi oversaw all administrative and front office staff and was essentially involved in every function of the office.

Peggi has a very unique background, including a period of time working in the oil and gas industry, time as co-owner of a professional party planning company, and work in a law office. These experiences helped shape her future role in public service.

I have had the honor of working with Peggi in a professional capacity, and I also came to know her personally through my family and our work together with a children's home in Mobile, Alabama. Peggi was the Firm Administrator at Miller, Hamilton, Snider & Odom, and I worked closely with her in my role as managing partner of the firm. Throughout our time together, I always found Peggi to be competent, capable, friendly, dedicated, and knowledgeable.

After being elected to the United States Senate in 1996, Mr. Jeff Sessions hired Peggi to serve on his staff. There is no way to quantify the numerous tasks Peggi has completed, the various roles she has held, or the number of individuals she assisted during her time on Capitol Hill. Whether it was arranging a tour of the United States Capitol or giving career advice to an intern or drafting personal correspondence to an Alabama family, Peggi's impact has been profoundly felt over the last twenty years.

Mr. Speaker, as a sign of Peggi's impressive skillset and track record, Mr. Sessions asked Peggi to continue serving with him once he was confirmed to serve as our nation's 84th Attorney General.

Mr. Sessions had this to say about Peggi and her years of service: "Peggi has been at the center of everything we have accomplished in public service. She loves America and its ideals, is smart, decisive, loyal, and a total professional. She speaks up for the high principles she believes in, and for two decades has been the key point of contact in our

office for thousands of Alabamians and Americans all over the country. She has provided invaluable service to me, the nation, and the so many who she trained and mentored. Though we will miss her marvelous contributions, we wish her all the best as she and Kevin embark on this next adventure."

So, on behalf of Alabama's First Congressional District and a grateful nation, I want to wish Peggi and her husband, Kevin, all the best upon her retirement. Alabama and our nation are better off today thanks to the service, dedication, and leadership of Peggi Hanrahan.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF FALLEN MISSISSIPPI SOLDIER ARMY PRIVATE FIRST CLASS (PFC) CHRISTOPHER MCCRAW

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 25, 2017

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in memory of Private First Class (PFC) Christopher McCraw, who paid the ultimate sacrifice while defending our great nation on October 14, 2008, during Operation Iraqi Freedom. PFC McCraw was killed by wounds sustained when he encountered small arms fire while on dismounted patrol in Nasar Wa Salam, Baghdad. PFC McCraw was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 21st Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade, 25th Infantry Division, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii.

PFC McCraw, a Columbia, Mississippi native, joined the Army in February 2006 and went to Basic Training at Fort Benning, Georgia where he graduated in June 2006. He deployed to Iraq in December of 2007. According to the Associated Press, PFC McCraw is remembered by his friends and family for having a jovial sense of humor. Wendy Bracey, PFC McCraw's Sunday school teacher described him as, "a charmer, an all-around, happy-go-lucky kid." His father, Avon, recalled that their last conversation was over the phone, and that at the time PFC McCraw was laughing and in good spirits.

PFC McCraw was laid to rest at Foxworth Cemetery, located in Marion County. According to the Associated Press, PFC McCraw's uncle, Jerry McCraw, remembers him as, "always a happy kid, a bursting-with-energy-type kid, I guess what you would call a perfect soldier."

PFC McCraw was awarded the Purple Heart, the Bronze Star, and the Good Conduct medal.

PFC McCraw is survived by his parents, Avon McCraw and Cathy McCraw; his uncle, Jerry McCraw; his son, Issac; and his fiancée Brianna Bell.

PFC McCraw proudly served our nation to protect the freedoms we all enjoy. His service will always be remembered.

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.